SB 65 (2017–2018)

Conversion Therapy

DFPC ACTION POSITION OPPOSE

WHAT THE BILL DOES

SB 65 defined counseling a person toward the acceptance of their biological sex as "conversion therapy," and banned licensed health-care professionals from providing such counseling to a child, or referring for such counseling across state lines, on penalty of professional discipline. Thus, the only form of counseling allowed is that which supports "exploration" and assistance with gender transitioning.

APPLICATION We believe families should be able to seek compassionate counseling consistent with their convictions and a Biblical understanding of sex and identity. We oppose government restrictions that narrow those counseling choices. Families have the right to access care that provides compassionate, biologically accurate information for children struggling with their gender identity.

OUTCOME Passed the Senate on May 17, 2017, and the House on June 7, 2018. Signed into law on July 23, 2018.

PRIMARY SPONSOR	Sen. McDowell
ADDITIONAL CO-SPONSORS	Rep. Heffernan Sens. Henry, Sokola, Townsend; Reps. Baumbach, Bentz, Keeley, Kowalko, Lynn, Osienski, Ramone, Schwartzkopf, M. Smith, Viola

ROLL CALL — SELECTED LEGISLATORS

Totals cover the full chamber; the names below are selected legislators from the voting record.

HOUSE · JUNE 7, 2018 — 24 YES / 14 NO / 3 NOT VOTING

YES: Baumbach; Bennett; Bentz; Bolden; Brady; Heffernan; K. Williams; Kowalko; Longhurst; Lynn; Matthews; Mitchell; Osienski; Paradee; Ramone; Schwartzkopf

NO: Briggs King; Carson; Collins; D. Short; Dukes; Gray; Hensley; Postles; Smyk; Spiegelman; Wilson; Yearick

SENATE · MAY 17, 2017 — 12 YES / 3 NO / 4 NOT VOTING / 2 ABSENT

YES: Cloutier; Delcollo; Hansen; Lopez; Poore; Sokola; Townsend; Walsh

NO: Hocker; Lawson; Richardson

NOT VOTING: Ennis; Pettyjohn

ABSENT: Bonini

SOURCES Bill, sponsors, and final action • Enacted law, Chapter 340